**Tool 1.5 Quick Quiz from *Team to Teach: A Facilitator’s Guide to Professional Learning Teams***

Directions: Take this quiz and discuss your thinking with a small group of participants. You can find the answers in Tool 1.7, “What does the research say?”

1. The most important determinant of student achievement is:
   1. Socioeconomic status
   2. Teacher knowledge and expertise
   3. Parental and societal factors
2. Most of the achievement gap between poor minority children and students in more affluent communities can be explained by:
   1. Access to more resources and better facilities
   2. Family income and parental education levels
   3. Differences in the quality of teaching
3. How much time per year does the average teacher spend in professional learning?
   1. 8 hours or less
   2. 3 days
   3. One week
4. What percent of teachers identified strong results from those learning experiences?
   1. 8%
   2. 15%
   3. 42%
5. Which group reported spending the least amount of time working together with colleagues on instruction?
   1. Beginning teachers
   2. Elementary teachers
   3. Secondary teachers
6. Teacher experience (years in teaching) is correlated with gains in teaching quality in what way?
   1. The more experienced the teacher, the higher the quality of teaching.
   2. There is no correlation between teacher experience and teaching quality.
   3. There is little or no correlation between experience and teaching quality after the first year of teaching.
7. Which of these structures has proven to be essential for improving teaching quality?
   1. Collaboration to improve instruction
   2. Supportive school conditions and culture
   3. Both A and B

**Tool 1.7: What does the research say?** - By Anne Jolly

What are the most powerful points you want to remember from each section of this reading? Jot notes here.

**Part 1: Effective Teaching Matters**

* Teachers are the **most** important influence on student learning.
* Three years of ineffective teaching can have a severe impact on student achievement. Achievement test scores for students who have three years of ineffective teaching are at least 50% lower than other students.
* The difference between effective and ineffective teaching is **profound**.

**Part 2- Teacher Opportunities to Learn Matter**

* Only eight percent of teachers reported a lasting impact on professional learning.
* The modern times we live in impact education. Education does not exist in a vacuum. The fact that our students have access to so much media at such a young age impacts education. By the time we teach some concepts, they are already obsolete.
* Teacher professional learning needs an **OVERHAUL**.

**Part 3: Collaborative Team Learning Works**

* When teachers work together and challenge each other they are more likely to sustain their commitment to innovative and effective instructional practices.
* The era of the “teacher island” has long since lost its effectiveness. Effective teaching must be a team sport.
* **Simply organizing teachers into teams does not guarantee positive outcomes.** There must be an understanding of and commitment to purpose.

**Tool 9.2: Pre/post survey**

**Directions:** Use the following scale to rate each statement in terms of how well it describes your knowledge and feelings about teacher collaboration. Circle the number that best expresses your answer. Do not put your name or any identifying information on this survey.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Strongly disagree** | **Disagree** | **Agree** | **Strongly agree** |
| 1. I am familiar with the rationale for teachers collaborating on classroom instruction. | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| 1. I know the basic procedures that make up structured learning team meetings. | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| 1. I feel that meeting regularly in teams to focus on increasing teachers’ knowledge and expertise would be valuable. | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| 1. I prefer to work alone to learn and to increase my teaching expertise. | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| 1. I prefer to participate in regular meetings with colleagues to learn and increase my teaching expertise. | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| 1. When we work together on committees at this school, the atmosphere is collegial. | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| 1. When teachers at my school work in groups, all members participate and share responsibilities. | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| 1. I regularly read professional journals and current research on teaching and learning. | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| 1. I regularly look for different teaching strategies and adjust or change my teaching practices throughout the year. | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| 1. I want to learn and practice new ways to teach. | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |